

**Statement of Rep. Edward J. Markey
On the
The Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act
May 24, 2005**

12 million baby-boomers will have Alzheimer's...
3 million will suffer from Parkinson's Disease...
Juvenile Diabetes, Lou Gehrig's Disease and Spinal cord injuries
are wreaking havoc on the daily lives of millions of American
families.

These diseases will bankrupt our healthcare system unless we take
action. Today we can take a dramatic step to deal with this
looming crisis.

President Bush has threatened to use his first veto to prevent
scientists from using federal funds to search for these cures.

This is wrong.

Stem cell research is the light of life, the way out of the darkness,
the life-giving, life-enhancing, life-extending path to hope.

Hope is the most powerful four-letter word in our language. Vote
for hope, vote for life, vote for a brighter future for all our loved
ones.

Vote for:

-- hope for a small girl forced to stick a needle three times a
day into a young arm.

-- hope for a beloved mother whose loss of balance leads to
falls in the night.

-- hope for a spouse who realizes that his memories of life and family are dissolving into a forgetful haze.

Vote YES, so that the next generation of children will have to turn to the history books to know that there ever was such a thing as juvenile diabetes, or Parkinson's, or Alzheimer's disease.